

REMARKS

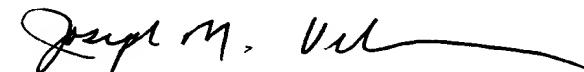
Claims 1-18 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1-16 were allowed. Claims 17 and 18 were rejected. Claims 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 19-22 have been added.

The Applicants respectfully acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-16.

The Examiner rejected claims 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as being directed toward non-statutory subject matter. Claims 17 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice to allow the case to proceed to allowance and not for any reason related to patentability. The Applicants reserve the right to pursue these canceled claims and any claims directed to any of the subject matter described in the present application.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at (510) 843-6200.

Respectfully submitted,
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